



Press Release

Commander Navy Installations Command
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NAVY FLEET AND FAMILY SUPPORT CENTERS ASSISTING HURRICANE EVACUEES

Help for military personnel, civilians and families continues to be provided by Navy professionals from installations, Navy regions and Commander Navy Installations Command (CNI) headquarters.

Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) staff helped hundreds of military and family members over the Labor Day holiday weekend, according to Cathy Stokoe, Fleet and Family Support program branch head at CNI headquarters. And, the FFSC organization continues to expand the support provided as quickly as it can.

By the weekend, the FFSC staff at Construction Battalion Center (CBC) Gulfport, Miss., was back at work providing family services. Assistance is also being provided at Naval Stations Pascagoula and Mayport, Fla., and Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss., to assist displaced military, civilian employees, family members and civilian evacuees. Many of these sites are bringing together experts from Navy programs such as FFSC, pay and personnel offices, housing and MWR, as well as representatives of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) and other community organizations as appropriate.

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According to Stokoe, FFSC offices at NAS Fort Worth, Texas and Naval Support Activity Millington, Tenn., are seeing many military families, including Coast Guard. And, she added, all other FFSC offices have been alerted to assist displaced people as needed – because the “safe haven” has been extended throughout the U.S., military families may have re-located to be near relatives.

Efforts continue to re-establish FFSC support to the New Orleans area itself.

The support provided ranges from information and referral to clinical counseling as needed. Stokoe said the FFSC people are providing “triage” with the displaced people they see, determining their needs and guiding them to the help they need.